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Applicant: Ilya Trakht
Serial No.: 09/767,578
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Listing of Claims

1-28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a monoclonal antibody comprising:

- (a) forming a tetroma cell by fusing a lymphoid cell capable of producing antibody with a trioma cell which does not produce any antibody, wherein the trioma cell is obtained by fusing a heteromyeloma cell which does not produce any antibody with a human lymphoid cell, ~~wherein the heteromyeloma cell is obtained by fusing a human antibody nonproducing myeloma cell with a mouse antibody nonproducing myeloma cell~~ wherein the trioma cell is designated MFP-2 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12482) or wherein the heteromyeloma cell is designated B6B11 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12481); and
- (b) incubating the tetroma cell formed in step (a) under conditions permissive to the production of antibody by the tetroma cell, thereby producing the monoclonal antibody

~~wherein the trioma cell is designated MFP-2 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12482) or wherein the heteromyeloma cell is designated B6B11 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12481).~~

30. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a monoclonal antibody specific for an antigen associated with a condition in a subject comprising:

- (a) forming a tetroma cell by fusing a lymphoid cell capable of producing antibody with a trioma cell which does not produce any antibody, wherein the trioma cell is obtained by fusing a heteromyeloma cell which does not produce any antibody with a human lymphoid cell, ~~wherein the heteromyeloma cell is obtained by fusing a~~

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~~human antibody nonproducing myeloma cell with a mouse antibody nonproducing myeloma cell wherein the trioma cell is designated MFP-2 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12482) or wherein the heteromyeloma cell is designated B6B11 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12481);~~

- (b) incubating the tetroma cell formed in step (a) under conditions permissive to the production of antibody by the tetroma cell;
- (c) selecting a tetroma cell producing a monoclonal antibody;
- (d) separately contacting the monoclonal antibody of step (c) with (1) a sample from a subject with the condition, and (2) a sample from a subject without the condition, under conditions permissive to the formation of a complex between the monoclonal antibody and the sample, wherein the sample from the subject with the condition contains the antigen;
- (e) detecting the complex formed between the monoclonal antibody and the sample;
- (f) determining the amount of complex formed in step (e); and
- (g) comparing the amount of complex determined in step (f) for the sample from the subject with the condition with the amount determined in step (f) for the sample from the subject without the condition, a greater amount of complex formation for the sample from the subject with the condition indicating that a monoclonal antibody specific for the antigen specific for the condition is produced

~~wherein the trioma cell is designated MFP-2 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12482) or wherein the heteromyeloma cell is designated B6B11 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12481).~~

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31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 or 30, wherein step (a) further comprises freezing the lymphoid cell.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 or 30, wherein step (b) further comprises incubating the selected tetroma cell under conditions permissive to cell replication.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the tetroma replication is effected in vitro or in vivo.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 or 30, wherein the trioma cell is designated MFP-2 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12482).
- 35-73. (Canceled)
74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 or 30, wherein the heteromyeloma cell is designated B6B11 (ATCC Designation Number HB-12481).